

Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

Visit our website: www.templebethelohim.net

Volume 18 Issue 6
July/August 2021
Tammuz/Av/Elul (5781)

The Rising Star

P.O. Box 571 Georgetown, SC 29442

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membership.tbe@gmail.com

9 Av 5781



Tisha B'Av
18 July 2021



President Richard

It's good to be back...

At the end of services, on Friday evening, 13 March 2020, Temple Beth Elohim closed its doors and locked them tight. The week that followed was full of dismal news about COVID-19 and The City of Georgetown, in an effort to prevent its spread, cautioned against large gatherings. The days that followed showed a serious increase in the number of cases. After a few weeks of no *Shabbat* services, we began to resume them virtually via ZOOM. This continued for more that a year.

Finally, on Friday evening, 16 April 2021, our doors opened. Members returned wearing masks, distancing themselves and avoiding the Social Hall. Week by week things slowly returned to normal. Masks began to disappear. Members relaxed and socialized as in the past. *Kiddish* returned to the Social Hall and plans were announced for the next *Havdallah* gathering. Yes, it's good to be back.

It's a New Fiscal Year, Anyway

As of today, 1 July 2021, Temple Beth Elohim is starting a new fiscal year. The pandemic could not stop that from happening. This means that it is time for membership renewal; election/re-election of officers and trustees; and planning for the early arrival of the High Holy Days.

The Membership Committee has already sent out renewal notices. Many members have given an immediate response.

The election of officers for the new fiscal year took place at the Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, 18 June 2021. The results are as follows:

- President* – Richard Dimentstein*
- Vice President* – Joy Birnbaum*
- Treasurer* – Michele Gershman Bennett*
- Secretary* – Tish Richter*
- Trustee* – Seymour Birnbaum**
- Trustee* – Ariane Lieberman¹
- Trustee* – Carrol Sallas**

*Re-elected to office **Re-elected for a two-year term ¹Newly elected for a two-year term

F Y I

- Erev Rosh Hashanah* 6 September 2021 (Evening)
- Rosh Hashana* 7 September 2021 (Morning)
- Kol Nidre* 15 September 2021 (Evening)
- Yom Kippur* 16 September 2021 (Morning)
- Yom Kippur (Yiskor)* 16 September 2021 (Afternoon)
- Break-the-Fast* 16 September 2021 (following *Yiskor*)

Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen



Ritual Scholar
Suzan

Tisha B'Av literally means the ninth day of the month of Av, which this year occurs sunset to sunset July 17 to 18. It is a day of communal mourning that commemorates the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. But

other calamities have also befallen the Jewish people on or near this date, including the expulsion of all Jews from England in 1290 and the start of World War I. *Tisha B'Av* also has become a day to commemorate many other tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people, including the Crusades, the pogroms, and the Holocaust. In other words, it has become known as a day of really bad luck for Jews.

Any one of these events could have posed an existential threat to the Jewish community, that is, Jews and Judaism as we know it could have been wiped out. That was certainly the intent and hope of King Edward, the Crusaders, and the Nazis. And yet, *hinei-nu*, here we are. We are small in number and scattered across the globe, but we have not been destroyed. We're still contributing to the greater good of our species in science, literature, and the arts

beyond all expectations. (But, to be fair, we have our share of scoundrels, too.)

Like many of our days of commemoration, *Tisha B'Av* has a past, present, and future. Yes, it is a time to remember the past tragedies that have befallen us, but also a time to learn what we need to keep ourselves safe and whole in the present, and use the lessons learned to keep our Jewish community strong into the future

Observing *Tisha B'Av* – are we really supposed to be nothing but gloomy?

Tisha B'Av is a day of fasting, so we are supposed to consume no food or drink from sunset to sunset. We also should refrain from wearing leather or other luxurious garments, using make-up or creams, and engaging in intimate relations. There is, however, no restriction on work on *Tisha B'Av*, as long as the tone of the day remains serious and mournful. These measures are meant to help us experience the mourning and desolation our ancestors did when they were forced into exile.

[continued on p. 4 – Wisdom from afar]



July 4, 2021

HAPPY
INDEPENDENCE
DAY

Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

President: Richard Dimentstein
(rdimentstein@gmail.com)

Vice President: Joy Birnbaum
(joyandseymour@gmail.com)

Secretary: Tish Richter (tish227@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Michele Gershman Bennett
(mbennett1150@gmail.com)

Trustees: Carrol Sallas (sallas2@sccoast.net),
Ariane Lieberman (rundoc13@gmail.com) **Shirley Giegerich** (shirleygiegerich@gmail.com), **Andy Friedman** (andy.friedman@hotmail.com), **Craig Lieberman** (heartdocks@aol.com); **Seymour Birnbaum** (joyandsey@ethanrand.com)

TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to www.chaitrack.com. If you need a user name and password, contact Andy Friedman, andy.friedman@hotmail.com.



Mark Dawson Victoria Raggs
Co-chairs of AJC
Atlanta's Black/Jewish
Coalition

What does Juneteenth Mean to Me?

By Amit Rau

Also known as Freedom Day, Juneteenth is a prominent holiday that celebrates the end of slavery. Two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, on June 19, 1865, the last group of enslaved people learned of their freedom when the Army declared 250,000 Texas slaves free. In 1980, nearly a century later, Texas recognized Juneteenth as an official holiday celebrated annually on June 19.

[continued on p. 4 – JUNETEENTH]

Tree of Life



Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

Use a separate sheet if you wish to order more than three leaves.

Leaf 1 _____

Leaf 2 _____

Leaf 3 _____

A check for \$ _____ (\$36 per leaf) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.
Thanks for your support.
Mail to: TBE, PO Box 571, Georgetown, SC 29442



BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 19 Randy Cavaliere
- 20 A J Giegerich

AUGUST

- 5 Robert Willey
- 8 Gary Koppel
- 9 Eileen Kramer
- 15 Suzan Cohen
- 21 Martin Kleinrock



ANNIVERSARIES

JULY

- 2 Debbie & Art Kaufman
- 7 Eileen Kramer & Stan Earnhart
- 28 Noreen Davis & Alan Gramet

AUGUST

- 8 Joy & Seymour Birnbaum
- 22 Michele & Jim Bennett
- 28 Shirley & AJ Giegerich



Let us fervently pray for the comfort and recovery of our dear temple members and friends and for the continued strength of their caregivers.



Susan & Brian Berry Dr. Eric & Rosa Lee Heiden



Richard Horowitz Donna & Tom Llewellyn Dick Rosen

Wisdom From Afar....

[continued from p. 2]

Tisha B'Av also can be an occasion to reflect on contemporary calamities that have befallen the Jewish people, including the rise of bigotry and anti-Semitism. It also is a good day to be moved to actions that work toward repairing the world, including making a charitable donation or setting aside some time to volunteer where you are needed. Indeed, the prophet Isaiah criticized Israel for fasting without committing to goodness and kindness:

No, this is the fast I desire:

To unlock fetters of wickedness, and untie the cords of the yoke

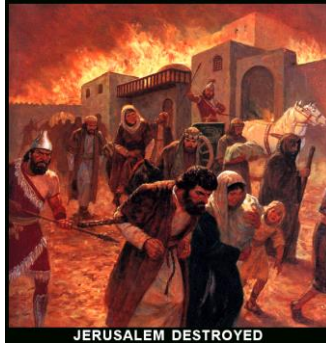
To let the oppressed go free; to break off every yoke.

It is to share your bread with the hungry,

And to take the wretched poor into your home;

When you see the naked, to clothe him,

And not to ignore your own kin. (Isaiah 58:6-7)



JUNETEENTH

[continued from p. 3]

Victoria Raggs and Mark Dawson are two of three co-chairs of AJC. Raggs is a diversity, equity, inclusion consultant and the executive director of the Atlanta Jews of Color Council, and Dawson is a managing partner at Benton & Muse Consulting and a board member of the Urban League of Greater Atlanta.

When asked what the holiday represents to her, Raggs expressed that “Juneteenth is not only a holiday for American descendants of slaves, but Americans as a whole.” She also spoke about the significance of Juneteenth today, considering current racial and social justice issues in the United States. Raggs noted that “it is especially significant to me since the state recently passed the resolution about critical race theory and banning talk about race and racial history in schools.”

To Dawson, Juneteenth is about the “jubilation of being free.” It symbolizes the agency of white and black people, fighting together for freedom from slavery. Unfortunately, however, the holiday feels bittersweet to him. As much as he and many others in the community wish to celebrate the achievements and how far the Black community has come, he hopes that while celebrating Juneteenth, we will never “bury the truth and the history of the holiday.”

In talking about her inspiration to become involved with Black/Jewish activism, Raggs commented on the value of living in Atlanta, the cradle of the civil rights movement, and walking in the footsteps of John Lewis and other trailblazers of the movement. Dawson added a similar note about his inspiration. He especially looks up to Fannie Lou Hamer, “who worked tirelessly for the freedom of Black people” by creating voting drives and founding the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

In Dawson’s words, the best way to celebrate Juneteenth is to “dig into the history and learn about the soldiers who fought for freedom.” Dawson believes that “if we deal with history properly, we can fight racism today.” Raggs urges us “to educate ourselves on the history and inequality, learn about social justice, read, watch movies, and become more aware.”

Raggs closes with this message: Until everyone is free, no one is free. And all of us – whether we are Black, Jewish, or simply allies in the community – must work together towards freedom.

DONATIONS



Randy & Tony Cavaliere to the General Fund in memory of John Cavaliere
Noreen Davis & Alan Gramet to the General Fund in memory of Bernard Snyderman
Richard Dimentstein to the General Fund in memory of Henry "Mel" Brown
Shirley & AJ Giegerich to the General Fund in memory of Patricia Giegerich and Morris Ader
Jana Hletko to the General Fund in memory of Alfred Dube
Ariane & Craig Lieberman to the General Fund in memory of Rae Zelesnick, Esther Zelesnick, Alfred Lefkow, and Samuel Kolsky
Tish Richter to the General Fund in memory of Rick Richter
Carrol Sallas to the General Fund in memory of Alice Salles and Allan Sallas



RENEW – JOIN - DONATE AT TEMPLE WEBSITE



If you haven't looked at our website recently, you don't know that there have been some changes!

1. www.templebethelohim.net is a certified, secure website. You can safely use Pay Pal or your credit card.
2. You can JOIN or RENEW your membership with a few clicks; if you prefer, you can still download and print the membership forms and mail a check to us.
3. You can make a DONATION to the General Fund, Temple Security or Other. You can designate Other for *Tzedakah*, or in memory of (*Yahrzeit*), in honor of, for a birthday or anniversary.

The Temple Beth Elohim website and Facebook page provide information about weekly *Shabbat* services, holidays, events, and important announcements.

Let us pray together for the speedy recovery and complete restoration of health of

SHANE FINKEL and RYAN SCHWARTZ

grandson of Carrol Sallas

grandson of Roberta & Steve Schwartz

Georgetown Theatre Orchestra

Stan Earnhart
Conductor

IN CONCERT

THURSDAY

JULY 8

7 PM

WINYAH AUDITORIUM

T B E 1772 LEGACY GROUP

Brenda & Benedict Rosen

Richard Dimentstein





Yahrzeits



JULY

Sylvan Rosen	father of Dick Rosen
2 Rose Ulrich	grandmother of Ariane Lieberman and Myla Specht
3 Lewis B. Schwartz	son of Roberta & Steven Schwartz
5 Sam Jacoby	grandfather of Martin Kleinrock
5 Malva Ulrich	mother of Ariane Lieberman and Myla Specht
5 Samuel Abrams	member Temple Beth Elohim
8 Solomon Feinberg	father of Herb Feinberg
10 Seth Rich	cousin of Ruth Farb
11 Vita Cahn Danzig	member Temple Beth Elohim
12 Morris David Baker	grandfather of Debbi Jones
13 Arlyne Berkman	mother of Gerald Berkman
15 Mary Levine	mother of Carrol Sallas
16 Benjamin Baker	father of Debbi Jones
17 Lillian Danzig Abrams	member Temple Beth Elohim
18 Henry G. Danzig	member Temple Beth Elohim
23 Elizabeth Moses	past president
24 Lena C. Crane	member Temple Beth Elohim
24 Louis Farb	father of Ruth Farb
26 Barbara S. Schwartz	member Temple Beth Elohim
31 Sallie Lewenthal	great grandmother of Dick Rosen and Susan Berry
31 Dora L. Rosen	grandmother of Dick Rosen

AUGUST

1 Sara Cornis	cousin of Ruth Farb
2 Max Birnbaum	father of Seymour Birnbaum
4 Lou Nierenberg	grandfather of Randi Wollman
4 Allen Poaster	father of Tish Richter
5 Sonia Kolsky	great grandmother of Craig Lieberman
6 Paula Blum	mother of Deborah Hart
10 Donna Hershberg	friend of Temple Beth Elohim
12 Fred Gramet	father of Alan Gramet
12 Anne Kleinrock	grandmother of Marty Kleinrock
16 Louis Davidson	father of Michael Davidson
17 Albert Ader	brother of Shirley Giegerich
18 Frieda Goldenberg	grandmother of Steven Schwartz
18 Edna Dimentstein	mother of Richard Dimentstein
20 Rose Schneider	great aunt of Susan Berry great grandmother of Debbie Smith mother of Anthony Cavaliere
21 Nancy Cavaliere	mother of Anthony Cavaliere
21 Beatrice Fogel Kaufman	member Temple Beth Elohim
22 Ben Kleinrock	grandfather of Marty Kleinrock
23 Tillie Lieberman	grandmother of Craig Lieberman
24 Neal Baker	brother of Debbi Jones
25 Meyer Rosen	uncle of Dick Rosen
26 Elayne Schwartz	mother of Steven Schwartz
27 Alfred Weitzman	cousin of Steven Schwartz
30 Dorothy B. Troutman	mother of Donna Llewellyn



Any corrections or additions please contact Richard Dimentstein rdimentstein@gmail.com or at membership.tbe@gmail.com .
Names are read every Friday night for *yahrzeits* of the upcoming week.

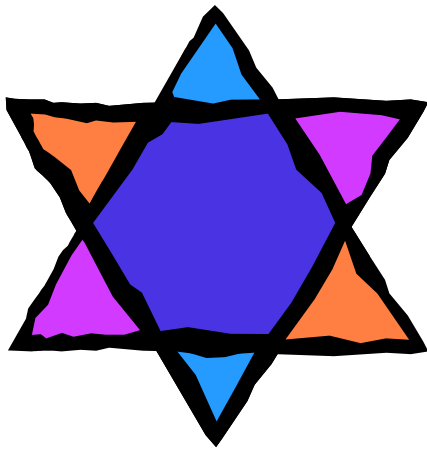
New Memorial Plaques

Plaques are displayed permanently on our *Yahrzeit* Board and are lit on the death anniversary of the honoree. Any member who would like to memorialize a loved one should speak with one of our Board members.

Beth Elohim Cemetery

Cemetery plots are for sale in our unique, historic resting place. The Cemetery Committee, chaired by SEYMOUR BIRNBAUM, has prepared the appropriate documentation for the purchase of gravesites.

Call the temple (843 325-0389) and request copies of Burial Rights, Rules and Regulations, Fee Schedule, and a schematic of burial plot locations. All plots include perpetual care. Plots are only available to current members of Temple Beth Elohim and to their families.



First Class
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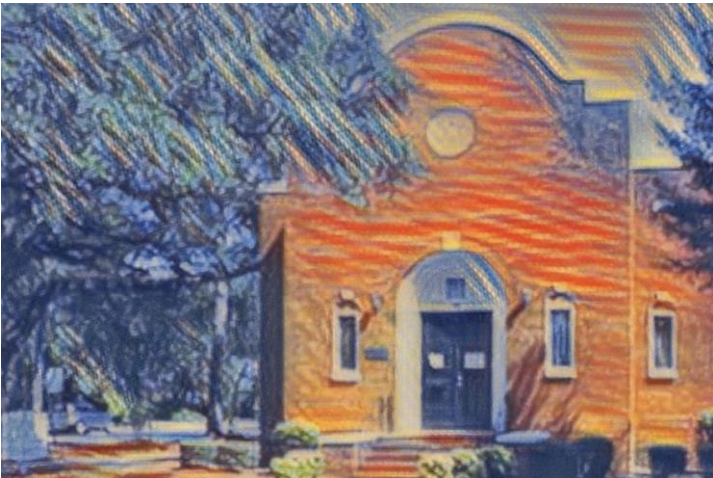
SHALOM

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years

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P. O. Box 571
Georgetown, SC 29442

Temple Beth Elohim

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Committee Members

Ritual Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Richard Dimentstein)
Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum
Communications: Andy Friedman
Finance Chair: Michele Gershman Bennett
Sunshine Committee Chair: Tish Richter
Building & Grounds Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Craig Lieberman)
Newsletter Editors: Richard Dimentstein, Joy Birnbaum, Jana Hletko
Library Chair: Richard Dimentstein
Oneg Shabbats: Joy Birnbaum
Web Page: Joy Birnbaum
Special Events: Donna Llewellyn, Tom Llewellyn
Website (www.templebethelohim.net): Joy Birnbaum
Photography: Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden